

What is claimed is:

1. A method for treating a pharyngeal airway having a pharyngeal wall of a patient at least partially surrounding and defining said airway, said method comprising;
 inserting an expander member into said airway and positioning an active portion of said expander member in opposition to portions of said wall to be treated;
 activating said expander member to urge said portions outwardly to an outwardly displaced position;
 deactivating said expander member while leaving said portions in said outwardly placed position; and
 removing said expander member from said airway.
2. A method according to claim 1 wherein said activating of said expander member creates an area of compressed tissue of said patient adjacent said portions and said method further comprising injecting a biocompatible tissue stabilizer into said compressed tissue while said portions are in said outwardly placed positions.
3. A method according to claim 2 wherein said removing of said expander member occurs after at least initial setting of said adhesive.
4. A method according to claim 2 further comprising injecting a fibrosis-inducing agent into said compressed tissue to induce a fibrotic response from said compressed tissue.
5. A method according to claim 3 wherein said fibrosis-inducing agent is substantially non-biodegradable for said agent to induce a chronic fibrotic response.

6. A method according to claim 5 wherein said fibrosis-inducing agent is a bolus of particulate material.
7. A method according to claim 1 further comprising injecting a fibrosis-inducing agent into said compressed tissue to induce a fibrotic response from said compressed tissue.
8. A method according to claim 7 wherein said fibrosis-inducing agent is substantially non-biodegradable for said agent to induce a chronic fibrotic response.
9. A method according to claim 8 wherein said fibrosis-inducing agent is a bolus of particulate material.
10. A method for treating a pharyngeal airway having a pharyngeal wall of a patient at least partially surrounding and defining said airway, said method comprising stabilizing at least a portion of said wall against underlying structure by securing said portion to said structure.
11. A method according to claim 10 wherein said stabilization includes mechanically securing said portion to said structure.
12. A method according to claim 11 wherein said stabilization includes suturing said portion to said structure.
13. A method according to claim 10 wherein said stabilization includes adhering said portion to said structure.

14. A method according to claim 10 further comprising compressing said portion prior to said stabilization.
15. A method for treating a pharyngeal airway having a pharyngeal wall of a patient at least partially surrounding and defining said airway, said method comprising: compressing at least a portion of said wall to a compressed state; and stabilizing said portion in said compressed state.
16. A method according to claim 15 wherein said stabilization includes mechanically securing said portion to a structure underlying said wall.
17. A method according to claim 16 wherein said stabilization includes suturing said portion to a structure underlying said wall.
18. A method according to claim 15 wherein said stabilization includes adhering said portion to a structure underlying said wall.
19. An apparatus for treating a pharyngeal airway having a pharyngeal wall of a patient at least partially surrounding and defining said airway, said method comprising;
- an expander member dimensioned so as to be inserted into said airway with an active portion of said expander member positioned in opposition to portions of said wall to be treated;
 - an activator for activating said expander member to urge said portions outwardly to an outwardly displaced position;
 - said expander member adapted to be deactivated while leaving said portions in said outwardly placed position;
 - said expander member further dimensioned so as to be removable from said airway.

20. An apparatus according to claim 19 wherein said expander member includes a fluid inflatable member and said activator includes a connection between said fluid inflatable member and a source of fluid under pressure.
21. An apparatus according to claim 19 wherein said expander member includes an injector for injecting a biocompatible adhesive into compressed tissue adjacent said portions while said portions are in said outwardly placed positions.
22. An apparatus according to claim 19 further comprising an injector for injecting a fibrosis-inducing agent into compressed tissue adjacent said portions while said portions are in said outwardly placed positions.
23. An apparatus according to claim 22 wherein said fibrosis-inducing agent is substantially non-biodegradable.
24. An apparatus according to claim 23 wherein said expander member carries a bolus of a particulate material as said fibrosis-inducing agent.